

DRŽAVNO NATJECANJE U ZNANJU ENGLESKOG JEZIKA
za 2. razrede srednjih škola

SLUŠANJE S RAZUMIJEVANJEM

Good morning. May I have your attention, please? The listening part of the test will start now. Open your tests to page 2. As you can see, the listening task and questions are on this page.

You will hear someone talk about snow.

You will hear the recording twice, and there will be a short pause between the two listenings.

You can write your answers during both the first and second listening.

Listen to the recording. For each of the questions 1-5, choose ONE answer (A, B, C or D) that fits best according to the recording.

Write the corresponding letter (A, B, C or D) on the Answer Sheet.

The task begins with an example (0).

Remember to write your answers on the Answer Sheet.

While you are listening, write your answers on the task itself. You can cross out your answers, change them, make notes or underline words if you wish.

After the second listening, you will have 1 minute to check your answers.
During this time, you should write your final answers on the Answer Sheet.

Now, let's begin. You have 30 seconds to read through the questions.

[Count silently to 30 – and then say the following:]

Now you will hear the recording.

Snow

I'm not a huge snow lover, which is something of a contrast with when I was younger. As a kid, I'd dream of snowmen and white Christmases but sadly never got the chance to enjoy them. Living at the mouth of an estuary, the stuff seldom fell where we lived. Had it done so, the municipal services would doubtlessly have efficiently swept it away in an instant or my overprotective parents, fearful of me catching a cold, would have kept me locked up in the house. And this was at a time before people started talking about milder winters and global warming.

At school, we once had the opportunity to go to Italy on a skiing trip. After an initial period of disinterest (I'd thought it was terribly uncool), I started badgering my parents about it. Though it cost a prohibitive amount, they relented, rescheduling the obligatory family holiday they didn't want me to miss and which clashed with the dates of the skiing trip. Ironically, a fractured collar bone ultimately kept me off the flight, much to the relief of my mum, who's always been fearful of me boarding a plane. Maybe the disappointment I suffered is the reason why I dislike the sport so much. These days, whenever I see it on TV I change channels immediately.

After finishing school, I went to study in another city. Unlike my home town, this place experienced a fair amount of snow. Despite this, the slightest drop would initially be greeted with childlike wonder by the local inhabitants before chaos ensued in the shape of public transport grinding to a halt, traffic jams and pedestrians falling and hurting themselves. It didn't matter how much people grumbled and moaned about the situation, it was the same story every year.

After graduation, I went to live on the European mainland in a place which could have quite harsh winters. For the first time in my life, I experienced the unpleasant sensation of the moisture in my nostrils freezing in the exceedingly low temperatures. The cold was a bit of a shock to my system. I vividly recall one day when the temperature plummeted to minus twenty, which was actually colder than the temperature in Siberia that day. It dawned on me that my wardrobe required major alterations. I'd heard stories about how the snow on the mainland could be more unpredictable than where I was from, but it still came as a surprise when one year it snowed in May. It had been 15 degrees centigrade in the morning!

I now live in a huge block of flats in one of the continent's capitals. Our building has a rota for snow-cleaning duty. Besides being a legal requirement, it's a practical measure. The chairmen of the building residents' association religiously pins up the roster at the beginning of November each year before the snow arrives, conveniently placing himself and his pals at the beginning, which grates on me somewhat. Of course, some people forget to do it when it's their turn, much to the annoyance of certain residents, but by and large it works pretty well. However, it's not much use if it snows while the person on duty is at work and doesn't get back till late. Maybe we should have substitutes.

I'm pleased that my kids, unlike myself, have grown up in an environment in which snow is not an uncommon occurrence. Just the other day, we had a decent amount of snow. I urged the kids to go sledging. They found it difficult to drag themselves away from their electronic devices until I threatened to confiscate them. Despite the initial whining, the kids quickly got into it and it was great to see them doing something outdoors for a change, although they seemed to hurtle downhill at great speeds with little regard for their own welfare. Neither was I too pleased with the stray snowball that hit a neighbour flush in the face. But still ...

[Count silently to 5 and then say the following:]

Now you will hear the recording again.

[After the second reading, say the following:]

You now have 1 minute to check your answers and copy them onto the Answer Sheet.

[Count silently to 60 – and then say the following:]

This is the end of the listening task. You may now go on to do the other parts of the test.

PART 2 - Task 1: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Task 1: Snow

You will hear someone talk about snow. Listen carefully to the instructions. For each of the questions 1-5, choose ONE answer (A, B, C or D) that fits best according to the recording. Write the corresponding letter (A, B, C or D) on the Answer Sheet. You will hear the recording twice.

You have 30 seconds to read through all the questions.

The task begins with an example (0).

After you hear the recording for the second time, you have 1 minute to check your answers and transfer them to the Answer Sheet.

- (0) Why did the speaker not experience playing with snow when she was a child?
- A Her parents kept her indoors if it snowed in case she fell ill.
 - B She grew up in a coastal area where it never fell.
 - C The local authorities quickly removed what little there was.
 - D The area where she grew up was affected by climate change.
- (1) The speaker was unable to go on the school skiing holiday because
- A she couldn't overcome her fear of flying.
 - B she had injured herself and was unable to ski.
 - C her parents couldn't afford to pay for the trip.
 - D the holiday conflicted with an important family obligation.
- (2) The speaker thought the people in the place where she went to college
- A were poorly prepared whenever there was snow.
 - B just complained about the snow but never did anything.
 - C were naïve in their attitude towards snow.
 - D behaved rashly whenever there was snow.
- (3) What hadn't the speaker realised about the winters on the continent?
- A Exactly how low the temperatures could be.
 - B She would need to get different clothes.
 - C It could snow when you least expected it to.
 - D Their extreme effects on the human body.
- (4) What irritates the speaker about the snow cleaning rota in her building?
- A Certain people are unable to do it on time.
 - B Some residents get out of doing it.
 - C She thinks it's determined unfairly.
 - D In her opinion, it's very officious.
- (5) Which word best describes how the author's children played in the snow?
- A uninterestedly
 - B naughtily
 - C innocently
 - D recklessly

Key

PART 2 TASK 1 – LISTENING COMPREHENSION	
1	B
2	A
3	B
4	C
5	D